Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Analyzing Characters

A New Team for Juan

 Juan was angry! His mom had signed him up late for baseball, and now he was not on his old team. He would not get to play with Tyler, Joe and Brad. They had played together for four years! And they all loved Coach Dave – he was one of the best coaches in the league. Juan was not even sure if he wanted to play at all. He just knew it would not be any fun.

At the first practice, Juan walked slowly to the field. He saw one guy pitching and one hitting. The guy hitting struck out. “Great!” thought Juan. “I will be on a team with no hitters!” Juan continued on to the field. He saw some guys playing catch. One guy missed an easy ball. “Perfect!” thought Juan. “I will also have to teach them how to catch!”

Juan thought about calling it quites when he suddenly realized that Eric, a friend from school, was on the team. Eric was a great pitcher! “Well, maybe I will stay for a bit,” he said to himself.

Juan started looking around some more. He recognized two other kids he had watched when he had been on the other team. One was a fast runner, and one never missed a pop fly. “Hey, This team might be okay after all!” thought Juan.

Eric was excited to see Juan. “Hey, Juan, I’m glad you are on our team. We are going to have a great team. Do you know who our coach is?”

Juan was sure the coach would not be as good as Coach Dave, but Eric was excited. “So, who is the coach, Eric?” Juan asked, somewhat indifferently.

“It’s Home Run Harvey!” Eric replied excitedly.

“Home Run Harvey!” exclaimed Juan. “The one and only Home Run Harvey from the university team?”

“That is right,” said Eric. “His little brother is on our team, and he wants to coach.” Juan could not believe how lucky he was to get on Home Run Harvey’s team!

“So who is his brother?” Juan asked.

“Tim is over there,” said Eric, pointing to the guy who had not caught what Juan had called an “easy ball.”

Juan felt badly for thinking negatively about Tim’s missed catch. Everyone misses a ball now and then. Juan could not wait to tell his friends about his new team and coach!

1. Check how Juan felt in each situation.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | positive | negative |
| He could not play baseball with his friends. |  |  |
| He sees a player on his new team strike out. |  |  |
| He sees his friend, Eric. |  |  |
| He learns Home Run Harvey is the coach. |  |  |

2. Why was Juan angry that he could not play on his old team? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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3. Underline when Juan first started feeling more positive about the new team.

when he saw a player who was a fast runner

when he saw a player who never missed a pop fly

when he saw Eric

4. Why do you think Juan felt badly about what he thought when he saw Tim miss a catch?

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5. Circle the words that describe Juan at the end of the story.

angry scared excited pessimistic remorseful timid

6. Circle the main idea of the story.

Juan’s mom made a terrible mistake, and now Juan had to suffer.

What Juan thought was going to be a negative experience soon looked like it could be a positive one.

Juan is going to get awesome coaching from a very talented ball player.

7. What kind of season do you think Juan’s team will have? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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